

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05

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R 111200Z OCT 75

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1223

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS 0170

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0462

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD OCT 6-12, 1975

1. SUMMARY: OCTOBER 6 LONDON REMARKS BY EX-FRG CHANCELLOR WILLY BRANDT, THAT WEST WOULD SOON ADD OFFER OF NUCLEAR WITHDRAWALS TO ITS MBFR PROPOSALS, ECHOED IN VIENNA THROUGHOUT THE WEEK AS EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES CONTINUED TO PRESS THEIR CAMPAIGN TO DRAW THEIR WESTERN COUNTERPARTS OUT ON THE SUBJECT IN BILATERAL CONTACTS HERE. IT IS OBVIOUS FROM THESE CONTACTS THAT THE EAST CONSIDERS SUCH A MOVE ONLY A MATTER OF TIME. THE OCT 6 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS PRODUCED NO SURPRISES,

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WITH BOTH SIDES ADHERING TO STANDARD GENERAL POSITIONS.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE NEXT INFORMAL WOULD RETURN TO THE SPECIFIC THEME OF FORCE DEFINITIONS DEVELOPED IN THE LAST ROUND. THE WEST MADE THE ONLY STATEMENT AT THE OCTOBER 9 PLENARY MEETING. IT REVIEWED THE ALLIED POSITION ON PHASING AND STATED THAT WESTERN CHANGES IN THAT POSITION SHOULD NOW MAKE IT ACCEPTABLE TO THE EAST. END SUMMARY.

2. EASTERN CURIOSITY CONCERNING THE LIKELIHOOD OF A NEW WESTERN MOVE INVOLVING AN OFFER OF NUCLEAR REDUCTIONS HAS BEEN MANIFEST FROM THE OUTSET OF THE CURRENT ROUND. THIS CURIOSITY RECEIVED ADDED IMPETUS THIS WEEK FROM OCTOBER 6 REMARKS BY EX-FRG CHANCELLOR WILLY BRANDT TO A LONDON CONFERENCE OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS ASSERTING THAT THE WEST WOULD PROBABLY SOON INTRODUCE AN OFFER OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS WITHDRAWALS INTO THE VIENNA TALKS. WITHIN HOURS OF ITS UTTERANCE, EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES WERE QUOTING THIS STATEMENT TO THEIR WESTERN COUNTERPARTS IN THE EFFORT TO DRAW THE WEST OUT ON THE SUBJECT. EASTERN REACTIONS TO REPETITIONS OF THE AGREED WESTERN RESPONSE TO SUCH PROBES PROVIDED FURTHER INDICATION THAT THE EAST NOW CONSIDERS SUCH A MOVE BY THE WEST A FOREGONE CONCLUSION. ACCORDINGLY, WHILE INQUIRIES ABOUT ACTUAL TIMING PERSIST, THE EASTERN LINE OF QUESTIONING HAS BEGUN TO SHIFT FOCUS SOMEWHAT TO MATTERS OF PURPOSE AND CONTENT. IN THE LATTER REGARD, SOVIET REP (KHLESTOV) ASKED UK REP ROSE EARLY IN THE WEEK WHETHER THE WESTERN NUCLEAR PROPOSAL WOULD INCLUDE PERSHING AND LANCE MISSILES BELONGING TO THE BUNDESWEHR.

3. THE OCTOBER 6 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WAS STANDARD WITH NO SURPRISES. KHLESTOV LED OFF WITH REFERENCE TO THE CSCE FINAL ACT, SAYING THERE WAS A COMMON OBLIGATION TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE NEW SITUATION CREATED BY CSCE IN SEARCH FOR PROGRESS IN VIENNA TALKS. HE REVIEWED THE ORIGINAL EASTERN DRAFT PROPOSAL AND STRESSED SUBSEQUENT EASTERN MODIFICATIONS AND THE NEED FOR THE WEST TO MAKE THE NEXT MOVE. CANADIAN REP (GRANDE) PRESENTED MAIN VALUES UNDERLYING WESTERN POSITION IN VIENNA TALKS AND POINTED OUT THAT EAST HAD THUS FAR FAILED TO ADDRESS THESE INTERESTS

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SERIOUSLY.

4. EASTERN REPS REPEATED CHARGES THAT THE NATO PARTICIPANTS WERE BUILDING UP THEIR FORCES IN THE REDUCTION AREA DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS. EASTERN REPS FAILED TO RESPOND TO ALLIED OBSERVATIONS THAT THE PACT WAS ENGAGED IN AN EXTENSIVE FORCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM OF ITS OWN. INSTEAD, THEY URGED THAT RENEWED CONSIDERATION BE

GIVEN TO THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL. KHLESTOV CLAIMED THAT THE EAST HAD MADE A GENUINE COMPROMISE ON THE QUESTION OF WHOSE FORCES SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM THE OUTSET THROUGH PROPOSING THAT PREVIOUSLY AGREED REDUCTIONS SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED BY US AND SOVIETS FIRST. ALLIED REPS SAID THE EAST HAD MADE ONLY A TACTICAL REARRANGEMENT OF ITS ORIGINAL PROGRAM AND INVITED THE EAST TO SHOW REAL FLEXIBILITY ON PHASING.

5. AT THE END OF THE SESSION, KHLESTOV SUGGESTED THAT PARTICIPANTS CONTINUE WITH THEIR PRACTICE OF PARALLEL DISCUSSION OF OTHER TOPICS AND OF DEFINITIONS ISSUE AND THAT THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSION MIGHT DEAL WITH DEFINITIONS. HE PROPOSED IT INCLUDE THE PARTICIPATION OF MILITARY ADVISORS. AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED IN AD HOC GROUP, ALLIED REPS CONCURRED.

6. LUXEMBOURG REP (WINTER) DELIVERED THE ONLY STATEMENT AT THE OCTOBER 9 PLENARY MEETING. HE REVIEWED THE LOGIC AND EQUITABLE CONTENT OF PROPOSALS MADE BY THE WEST CONCERNING PHASING AND THE INADEQUACIES OF THE EASTERN POSITION ON THE TIMING OF PARTICIPATION IN AND SEQUENCE OF REDUCTIONS. BOTH SIDES HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THE NEED OF FINDING MEANS TO BRING THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS CLOSER TOGETHER. BUT, WHEREAS THE EAST HAD SO FAR FAILED TO GO BEYOND REORDERING THE ELEMENTS OF ITS ORIGINAL POSITION, THE WEST HAD MADE A NUMBER OF CONSTRUCTIVE MOVES TO MEET STATED EASTERN CONCERNS. CURRENT WESTERN PROPOSALS CONSTITUTED A PRACTICAL MIDDLE GROUND POSITION WITH RESPECT TO PHASING. THE LUXEMBOURG REP CONCLUDED BY STATING THE ALLIED BELIEF THAT WAYS HAD BEEN FOUND WHICH SHOULD NOW MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE EAST TO ACCEPT THAT SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS BY THE US AND USSR COULD OCCUR BEFORE THE
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REMAINING DIRECT PARTICIPANTS UNDERTOOK REDUCTION OBLIGATIONS.RESOR

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